

Banisteria, Number 40, page 68
© 2012 Virginia Natural History Society

DRASSYLLUS RUFULUS (BANKS), AN ADDITION TO THE GROUND SPIDER FAUNA OF VIRGINIA (ARANEAE: GNAPHOSIDAE). — Hoffman (2009) prepared the first list of Virginia “ground spiders” (Gnaphosidae), providing records for 45 confirmed species of an estimated state total of about 60 species. His paper listed 17 additional species that may occur in Virginia judging from their presence in neighboring states or other areas of the eastern United States. Subsequent processing of another portion of the large backlog of unidentified spiders at the Virginia Museum of Natural History has verified that one of these species, *Drassyllus rufulus* (Banks), inhabits Virginia. This species ranges from New Hampshire south to North Carolina and west to Texas and Colorado (Platnick & Shadab, 1982), and was previously documented in four of the five states bordering Virginia. Platnick & Shadab (1982) cited records for this species from 16 states and Ontario, but typically had only one record per state, perhaps suggesting that the species is widespread but uncommon. The Virginia record is based on the following collection from a drift fence-pitfall array operated by personnel of the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage: *City of Virginia Beach*, Little Creek Amphibious Base, 21 June 1989, K. A. Buhlmann (2♂).

LITERATURE CITED

Hoffman, R. L. 2009. Virginia ground spiders: a first list (Araneae: Gnaphosidae). *Banisteria* 33: 18-29.

Platnick, N. I., & M. U. Shadab. 1982. A revision of the American spiders of the genus *Drassyllus* (Araneae, Gnaphosidae). *Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History* 173: 1-97.

Steven M. Roble
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Richard L. Hoffman*
Virginia Museum of Natural History
21 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

*Deceased